

*STATE OF GEORGIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR ELECTIONS AND
REGISTRATION OFFICIALS
2012 ELECTION YEAR*

When the last day for the exercise of any privilege or discharge of any duty prescribed or required by this chapter all fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the next succeeding business day shall be the last day for the exercise of such privilege or the discharge of such duty. O.C.G. A. §21-2-14.

15 Months Prior
to submission

QUALIFYING PETITIONS TO QUALIFY POLITICAL BODIES-

Petitions to qualify political bodies to nominate candidates for statewide offices by convention shall not be signed by the voters more than 15 months prior to the submission of the petition to the Secretary of State. No petition shall be submitted to the Secretary of State after twelve noon on the first Monday in August. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-182; 21-2-185; 21-2-187.

180 DAYS PRIOR
TO SUBMISSION

PETITION TO QUALIFY AS A PAUPER (Political Party Candidates)-

Earliest day to circulate for political party candidates. No signature shall be counted on a petition authorizing a candidate to file a pauper's affidavit unless it was signed within 180 days of the last day for filing of same. O.C.G.A. §21-2-132.

180 DAYS PRIOR
TO SUBMISSION

PETITION TO QUALIFY AS A PAUPER (Political body, Independent, and Nonpartisan candidates)-

Earliest day to circulate for political body, independent candidates, and nonpartisan candidates. No signature shall be counted on a petition authorizing a candidate to file a pauper's affidavit unless it was signed within 180 days of the last day for filing the same. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-132.

September 8, 2011

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY-

Earliest day for voters to apply for absentee ballots for the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election. (Not more than 180 days prior to the Presidential Preference Primary.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381.

January 1, 2012

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES-FILE AND PUBLISH NOTICE OF INTENT-

First day to file and publish a notice of intention to be a write-in candidate in the General Election.

The notice must be filed by a federal or state candidate with the Secretary of State and published in a newspaper of general circulation in the state. The notice of intention to be a write-in candidate for a county office must be filed with the election superintendent of the county in which the person is to be a candidate and published in the official organ of the same county. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-133.

January 6, 2012

DEADLINE FOR PRECINCT BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

Last day the boundaries of a precinct may be changed prior to the Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election. O.C.G.A. 21-2-261. (Section 5 of the Voting Rights of 1965 requires that any change in precinct or polling place be submitted for preclearance and shall be effective until it has been pre-cleared, 42 U.S.C. § 1973c.)

January 21, 2012

DELIVERY OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO REGISTRAR-

The superintendent must shall, at least 45 days prior to an general primary or general election other than a municipal general primary or general election, as soon as possible prior to a runoff, and at least 21 days prior to any municipal general primary or general election, prepare, obtain, and deliver an adequate supply of official absentee ballots to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. Envelopes and other supplies as required by this article may be ordered by the superintendent, the board of registrars, or the absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. (21-2-384(a)(1))

PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF SAMPLE BALLOT-

At least 45 days prior to a general primary or election the superintendent shall place on public exhibition, in such public places at such times as the superintendent shall deem most suitable for the information and instruction of the electors, a sample ballot to be used in such election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-379.8

February 1, 2012

QUALIFYING FEES-

Last day for governing authority of each county to fix and publish qualifying fees for candidates running for county offices, and for the Secretary of State to fix and publish qualifying fees for candidates running for federal and state offices. Last day for county and state political parties to fix and publish qualifying fees for a party office to be filled at the primary. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131.

February 2, 2012

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS FOR GENERAL
PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION-

Earliest day for voters to apply for absentee ballots for the 2012 General Primary/NonPartisan Election. (Not more than 180 days prior to the Primary.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381(a)(1).

February 6, 2012

DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION-

Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Primary and runoff. (5th Monday prior to the election). O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224.

Last day for an elector to change his/her address if he/she has moved within the county to an address different from the address shown on the voter's registration card. It is the duty of the elector to notify the board of registrars by this date in order for the elector to be placed in the correct precinct and for the elector's name to be placed on the correct list of elector's. An elector who moves to a residence within the county but into a different precinct, or who moves to a residence in the same precinct, but at a different address, and fails to notify the board of registrars of this change by the 5th Monday prior to the Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election shall vote in the precinct of elector's previous residence for the General/Special Election and any ensuing Runoff and shall complete a change of address card at the polls. The board of registrars shall correct the voters list accordingly and issue the voter a new precinct card showing the address change and voters proper voting precinct and district information. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

Last day for a voter moving his/her residence to this state from another state or from one county in Georgia to another to make application for voter registration in the voter's new county of

residence and have his/her previous registration canceled. Any voter moving from one county to another after this deadline may vote in the county in which the voter is registered in the Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

Last day for an elector to change his/her address if he/she has moved within the county to an address different from the address shown on the elector's registration card. It is the duty of the elector to notify the board of registrars by this date in order for the elector to be placed in the correct precinct and for the elector's name to be placed on the correct list of electors. A voter who has moves to a residence within the county but into a different precinct, or who moves to a residence in the same precinct, but at a different address, and fails to notify the board of registrars of this change the 5th Monday prior to the Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election shall vote in the precinct of voter's previous residence for the Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election and runoff, and shall complete a change of address card at the polls. The board of registrars shall correct the voters list accordingly and issue the voter a new precinct card showing the address change and voters proper voting precinct and district information O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

February 8, 2012

NOMINATION PETITIONS-

Earliest day for voters to sign a nomination petition for placing the name of a political body candidate or independent candidate on the General Election ballot. (See deadline above for political bodies seeking to nominate statewide candidates by convention.) O.C.G.A. § § 21-2-132; 21-2-170(e) (180 days before last of filing).

February 13, 2012

ADVANCED (ABSENTEE IN-PERSON) VOTING BEGINS

There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence on the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election and as soon as possible prior to a runoff and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff. Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period) 21-2-385 (D)(1)

February 25, 2012

SATURDAY VOTING

On the second Saturday prior to a primary or election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours shall be required. (21-2-385 (d)(1))

February 28, 2012

CONSOLIDATION NOTICE –

The superintendent shall give at least one week's notice of the time and place for the consolidation of the returns by posting a notice at the county courthouse. A copy of the notice shall also be posted in the superintendent's office during this period. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-492. (At least one week's notice prior to date of election.)

March 1, 2012

PREPARATION OF ELECTOR'S LIST-

Last day for registrars to complete preparation of the voter's list for use in the Presidential Preference Primary. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224. (At least 5 days prior to the Presidential Preference Primary.)

March 2, 2012

DEADLINE FOR MAILING ABSENTEE BALLOTS –

Last day for registrars to receive an application and mail out an absentee ballot for the Presidential Preference Primary. No absentee ballot is to be mailed out on the day prior to the Presidential Preference Primary. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384

DEADLINE FOR VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT IN PERSON –

No absentee ballot shall be issued on the day prior to the primary/nonpartisan election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2). No absentee ballot shall be voted on the day of the General Primary/NonPartisan Election, except in the case of a voter confined to the hospital to whom the registrars have delivered an absentee ballot and the voter has voted it then and there. An absentee ballot, which has been voted prior to the day of the election, may be mailed to the registrars on the day of the election, but will not be counted unless it reaches the registrars' office by 7:00 p.m. the day of the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384

March 3, 2012

LOGIC & ACCURACY TESTING –

Last day for the superintendent to have tested each DRE unit and memory card to be used to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and questions. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be made at least three (3)

days prior. Representatives of political parties, and bodies, media, and the public shall be permitted to observe the tests. O.C.G.A. §21-2-379.6(c)

March 6, 2012

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION

O.C.G.A. 21-2-191 and 21-2-540

HOURS POLLS ARE OPEN

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. O.C. G.A. 21-2-403

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF REGISTRARS TO MEET ON ELECTION DAY

The registrars shall meet at their main office during each primary or election for the purpose of considering the qualification of voters whose names have been omitted by error from the list of voters. The registrars are authorized to place the names of such electors on the registration list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-407.

REGISTRARS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN –

The chairman of the county board of registrars and the election superintendent shall cause their office(s) to remain open during the entire duration of each primary and election, and after the close of the polls, until completion of the duties of said board. (Does not apply to counties having a population of 550,000 or more.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-490.

TABULATION, POSTING, ETC. –

The poll officers shall post either an accumulated results tape or one results tape from each unit on the door of the polling place according to which procedure was used. State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.02(5)(a)5.

The election superintendent shall receive the memory cards from the poll managers and proceed to verify that the envelopes are sealed, remove each memory card and transfer the vote totals from the memory card to the election management system. O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.11(g).

March 7, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent shall provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06 (10)

March 9, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION -

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS –

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.

April 3, 2012

SPECIAL ELECTION RUNOFF

Date for holding runoff (if required). (On the twenty eighth day after the Special Election). O.C.G.A. § 21-2-501.

HOURS POLLS ARE OPEN

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. O.C. G.A. 21-2-403

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF REGISTRARS TO MEET ON ELECTION DAY

The registrars shall meet at their main office during each primary or election for the purpose of considering the qualification of voters whose names have been omitted by error from the list of voters. The registrars are authorized to place the names of such electors on the registration list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-407.

REGISTRARS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN –

The chairman of the county board of registrars and the election superintendent shall cause their office(s) to remain open during the entire duration of each primary and election, and after the close of the polls, until completion of the duties of said board.

(Does not apply to counties having a population of 550,000 or more.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-490.

TABULATION, POSTING, ETC. –

The poll officers shall post either an accumulated results tape or one results tape from each unit on the door of the polling place according to which procedure was used. State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.02(5)(a)5.

The election superintendent shall receive the memory cards from the poll managers and proceed to verify that the envelopes are sealed, remove each memory card and transfer the vote totals from the memory card to the election management system. O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.11(g).

April 4, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent shall provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06 (10)

April 6, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION -

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS –

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.

May 10, 2012

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION FOR GENERAL ELECTION -

Earliest day for voters to apply for absentee ballots for the 2012 General/Special Election. (Not more than 180 days prior to the General Election.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381.

SPECIAL WRITE-IN BALLOT FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Earliest day for a qualified voter, who is unable to vote by regular absentee ballot or in person due to requirements of military service or due to living in isolated or extremely remote areas of the world, to apply for a special write-in ballot. (Not earlier than 180 days prior to the General Election.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381.

May 23, 2012

9:00 a.m.

QUALIFYING FOR GENERAL PRIMARY-

Earliest day for a political party candidate to file a declaration of candidacy and affidavit to have the candidate's name placed on the General Primary/NonPartisan Election ballot, and to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a pauper's affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-153; 21-2-132.

QUALIFYING FOR NONPARTISAN ELECTION-

Earliest day for, a nonpartisan candidate to file a notice of candidacy to have the candidate's name placed on the General Primary/NonPartisan Election ballot, to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a paupers affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-132; 21-2-172; 21-2-187

May 25, 2012

12:00 noon

QUALIFYING DEADLINE FOR GENERAL PRIMARY-

Last day for a political party candidate to file a declaration of candidacy and affidavit to have the candidate's name placed on the General Primary/NonPartisan Election ballot and to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a pauper's affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-153; 21-2-132.

QUALIFYING DEADLINE FOR NONPARTISAN ELECTION –

Last day for a nonpartisan candidate to file a notice of candidacy to have the candidate's name placed on the General Primary/NonPartisan Election ballot, to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a pauper's affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-132; 21-2-172; 21-2-187

May 25, 2012

2:00 P.M.

POSTING OF CANDIDATES NAMES BY PARTIES-

Within two hours after qualifying has closed, the state executive

committee of each political party shall provide a list of all candidates who have qualified with them for federal and state offices to the Office of Secretary of State and the county executive committee of each political party shall post at the office of the county election superintendent a list of all candidates who have qualified with them for county and political party offices. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-153(d)(1).

May 28, 2012
12:00 noon

DEADLINE FOR CERTIFICATION OF NAMES/QUESTIONS BY
POLITICAL PARTIES-

Deadline for the county executive committee of each political party to certify to the election superintendent, and the state executive committee of each political party to certify to the Secretary of State, the names of those candidates who have qualified with them to run in the General Primary/NonPartisan Election. Forms for certification will be furnished by the Secretary of State to both state and county executive committees. The certification shall be accompanied by the appropriate amount of qualifying fees paid by the candidates. O.C. G.A. § 21-2-154.

Political parties should also certify the wording of any matter or question to be voted upon to the election superintendent, if to be voted on by one county only, or to the Secretary of State, if to be voted on by more than one county. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-284(d).

June 1, 2012

DEADLINE FOR PRECINCT BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR GENERAL
PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION-

Last day the boundaries of a precinct may be changed prior to the General Primary/NonPartisan Election. O.C.G.A. 21-2-261.
(Section 5 of the Voting Rights of 1965 requires that any change in precinct or polling place be submitted for preclearance and shall be effective until it has been pre-cleared, 42 U.S.C. § 1973c.)

June 1, 2012

DEADLINE FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES FOR NONPARTISAN
ELECTIONS

No person elected on a write-in vote shall be eligible to hold office unless notice of his or her intention of candidacy was filed and published no earlier than January 1 and no later than seven days after the close of the qualifying period for nonpartisan elections in the case of nonpartisan elections for state or county offices... (O.C.G.A. 21-2-133)

June 9, 2012

POLITICAL BODY CONVENTION-

Last day for a political body to hold a convention for the purpose of nominating candidates to be placed on the General Election ballot. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-172 (e).

June 16, 2012

DELIVERY OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO REGISTRAR-

The superintendent must shall, at least 45 days prior to an general primary or general election other than a municipal general primary or general election, as soon as possible prior to a runoff, and at least 21 days prior to any municipal general primary or general election, prepare, obtain, and deliver an adequate supply of official absentee ballots to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. Envelopes and other supplies as required by this article may be ordered by the superintendent, the board of registrars, or the absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. (21-2-384(a)(1))

July 1, 2012

PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF SAMPLE BALLOT-

At least 45 days prior to a general primary or election the superintendent shall place on public exhibition, in such public places at such times as the superintendent shall deem most suitable for the information and instruction of the electors, a sample ballot to be used in such election.
O.C.G.A. § 21-2-379.8

July 1, 2012

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF BOUNDARY LINE CHANGES
FOR GENERAL PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION-

Last day for registrars to notify affected voters in writing of changes in boundary lines of precinct prior to General Primary/NonPartisan Election.(At least thirty days prior). State Election Board Rule 183-1-7-.01.

July 2, 2012

DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR
GENERAL PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION-

Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the General Primary/Nonpartisan Election and any ensuing runoff (5th

Monday prior to the General Primary/NonPartisan Election).
O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224.

Last day for an elector to change his/her address if he/she has moved within the county to an address different from the address shown on the elector's registration card. It is the duty of the elector to notify the board of registrars by this date in order for the elector to be placed in the correct precinct and for the elector's name to be placed on the correct list of electors. A voter who has moves to a residence within the county but into a different precinct, or who moves to a residence in the same precinct, but at a different address, and fails to notify the board of registrars of this change the 5th Monday prior to the General Primary/NonPartisan Election shall vote in the precinct of voter's previous residence for the General Primary/NonPartisan Election and runoff, and shall complete a change of address card at the polls. The board of registrars shall correct the voters list accordingly and issue the voter a new precinct card showing the address change and voters proper voting precinct and district information O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

Last day for a voter moving his/her residence to this state from another state or from county in Georgia to another to make application for voter registration in the voter's new county of residence and have his/her previous registration canceled. Any voter moving from one county to another after this deadline may vote in the county in which the voter is registered in this General Primary/NonPartisan Election or runoff. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

POLLWATCHERS FOR EARLY/ADVANCE VOTING PERIOD

Each candidate is entitled to have his or her name placed on the primary or run-off primary ballots may submit the name of one poll watcher for each location at which advance voting is conducted pursuant to subsection (b) of 21-2-380 in which he or she wishes to have an observer to the chairperson or secretary of the appropriate party executive committee at least 21 days prior to the beginning of the advance voting day for a primary or 14 days prior to such period before a primary runoff.(O.C.G.A. 21-2-408(a)(2)

Candidates running in a nonpartisan election shall be entitled to designate one poll watcher for each location at which advance voting is conducted (O.C.G.A. 21-2-408(b)(3)(A))

July 9, 2012

ADVANCED (ABSENTEE IN-PERSON) VOTING BEGINS

There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence on the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election and as soon as possible prior to a runoff and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff. Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period) 21-2-385 (D)(1)

July 21, 2012

SATURDAY VOTING

On the second Saturday prior to a primary or election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours shall be required. (21-2-385 (d)(1))

July 24, 2012

CONSOLIDATION NOTICE –

The superintendent shall give at least one week's notice of the time and place for the consolidation of the returns by posting a notice at the county courthouse. A copy of the notice shall also be posted in the superintendent's office during this period. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-492. (At least one week's notice prior to date of election.)

July 24, 2012

POLL WATCHERS DESIGNATED: POLITICAL PARTIES–

Last day for party executive committees to designate poll watchers for the General Primary/NonPartisan Election as provided in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-408. Poll watchers so designated must be notified by letter. (At least 7 days prior to primary or runoff).

At least three days prior to the General Primary or Runoff, a copy of the designating letter issued by the political party shall be sent to the superintendent of elections in the county in which the poll watcher is to serve. State Election Board Rule No. 183-1-13-.03.

The superintendent must furnish a badge to each poll watcher, which the poll watcher must wear at all times while serving as a poll watcher containing the words "Official Poll Watcher", the name of the poll watcher's name, the primary in which the poll

watcher is to serve, and each precinct or tabulating center in which the poll watcher will serve. State Election Board Rule No. 183-1-13-.04

July 24, 2012

POLL WATCHERS DESIGNATED; NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES

Candidates running a state-wide nonpartisan election shall be entitled to designate no more than 25 official state-wide poll watchers. (O.C.G.A. 21-2-408(b)(2))

Candidates running in a nonpartisan election shall be entitled to designate on poll watcher for each location at which advance voting is conducted (O.C.G.A. 21-2-408(b)(3)(A))

Candidates running in a state-wide nonpartisan election shall be entitled to designate no more than 25 official state-wide poll watchers for such advance voting period. (O.C.G.A. 21-2-408 (b)(3)(B))

July 26, 2012

PREPARATION OF ELECTOR'S LIST-

Last day for registrars to complete preparation of the voter's list for use in the General Primary/Nonpartisan Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224. (At least 5 days prior to the General Primary/Nonpartisan Election.)

July 27, 2012

DEADLINE FOR MAILING ABSENTEE BALLOTS –

Last day for registrars to receive an application and mail out an absentee ballot for the General Primary/NonPartisan Election. No absentee ballot is to be mailed out on the day prior to the General Primary/NonPartisan Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384

DEADLINE FOR VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT IN PERSON –

No absentee ballot shall be issued on the day prior to the primary/nonpartisan election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2). No absentee ballot shall be voted on the day of the General Primary/NonPartisan Election, except in the case of a voter confined to the hospital to whom the registrars have delivered an absentee ballot and the voter has voted it then and there. An absentee ballot, which has been voted prior to the day of the election, may be mailed to the registrars on the day of the election, but will not be counted unless it reaches the registrars' office by 7:00 p.m. the day of the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384

July 30, 2012

LOGIC & ACCURACY TESTING –

Last day for the superintendent to have tested each DRE unit and memory card to be used to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and questions. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be made at least three (3) days prior. Representatives of political parties, and bodies, media, and the public shall be permitted to observe the tests. O.C.G.A. §21-2-379.6(c)

July 30, 2012

EARLIEST DAY FOR FILING NOTICE OF CANDIDACY/AFFIDAVIT AND QUALIFYING FEE OR PAUPER'S AFFIDAVIT/PETITION-

Earliest day for, an independent candidate, or a political body candidate (including political body candidates nominated for state-wide offices in convention) to file a notice of candidacy to have the candidate's name placed on the General Election ballot, to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a paupers affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-132; 21-2-172; 21-2-187

July 31, 2012

DATE OF GENERAL PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION/SPECIAL ELECTION –

O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-150; 21-2-540

HOURS POLLS ARE OPEN –

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-403.

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF REGISTRARS TO MEET ON ELECTION DAY

The registrars shall meet at their main office during each primary or election for the purpose of considering the qualification of voters whose names have been omitted by error from the list of voters. The registrars are authorized to place the names of such electors on the registration list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-407.

REGISTRARS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN –

The chairman of the county board of registrars and the election superintendent shall cause their office(s) to remain open during the entire duration of each primary and election, and after the close of the polls, until completion of the duties of said board. (Does not apply to counties having a population of 550,000 or more.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-490.

TABULATION, POSTING, ETC. –

The poll officers shall post either an accumulated results tape or one results tape from each unit on the door of the polling place according to which procedure was used. State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.02(5)(a)5.

The election superintendent shall receive the memory cards from the poll managers and proceed to verify that the envelopes are sealed, remove each memory card and transfer the vote totals from the memory card to the election management system. O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.11(g).

August 1, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent shall provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06 (10)

August 3, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION -

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

August 3, 2012

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS –

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.

August 3, 2012

LAST DAY FOR FILING NOTICE OF CANDIDACY/AFFIDAVIT AND QUALIFYING FEE OR PAUPER’S AFFIDAVIT/PETITION –

Last day for an independent candidate, or a political body candidate (including political body candidates nominated for statewide offices by convention) to file a notice of candidacy to have the candidate's name placed on the General Election ballot, to pay the prescribed qualifying fee or file a pauper's affidavit accompanied by a qualifying petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-132; 21-2-172; 21-2-187

August 6, 2012

LAST DAY TO FILE NOMINATION PETITION-

Last day for independent or political body candidate to file the required nomination petition. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-132 (d) 21-2-187.

August 20, 2012

DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR SEPTEMBER SPECIAL ELECTION-

Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the Special Election and any ensuing runoff (5th Monday prior to the Special Election). O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224.

August 21, 2012

DATE OF RUNOFF –

Date of General Primary/NonPartisan Election/Special Election Runoff. (Twenty-first day after General Primary/NonPartisan Election/Special Election.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-501.

HOURS POLLS ARE OPEN –

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-403.

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF REGISTRARS TO MEET ON ELECTION DAY

Registrars shall meet at their main office during each primary or election for the purpose of considering the qualification of voters whose names have been omitted by error from the list of voters. The registrars are authorized to place the names of such electors on the registration list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-407.

REGISTRARS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN –

The chairman of the county board of registrars and the election superintendent shall cause their office(s) to remain open during the entire duration of each primary and election, and after the close of the polls, until completion of the duties of said board. (Does not apply to counties having a population of 550,000 or more.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-490.

TABULATION, POSTING, ETC. –

Poll officers shall post either an accumulated results tape or one results tape from each unit on the door of the polling place according to which procedure was used. Rule 183-1-12-.02(5)(a)5.

The election superintendent shall receive the memory cards from the poll managers and proceed to verify that the envelopes are sealed, remove each memory card and transfer the vote totals from the memory card to the election management system. O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.11(g).

August 22, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent will provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election runoff. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, Rule 183-1-12-.06(10).

August 24, 2012

PROVISIONAL VERIFICATION-

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

August 24, 2012

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS –

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.

August 27, 2012

ADVANCED (ABSENTEE IN-PERSON) VOTING BEGINS

There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence on the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election and as soon as possible prior to a runoff and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff. Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period) 21-2-385 (D)(1)

September 4, 2012

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES-FILE AND PUBLISH NOTICE OF INTENT -

Last day to file and publish a notice of intention to be a write-in candidate in the General Election. The notice must be filed by a federal or state candidate with the Secretary of State and published in a paper of general circulation in the state. The notice of intention to be a write-in candidate for a county office must be filed with the superintendent of the county in which the person is to be a candidate and published in the official organ of the same county. O.C.G.A. §21-2-133. (No later than the Tuesday after the first Monday in September prior to the General Election).

September 7, 2012

DEADLINE FOR PRECINCT BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR GENERAL ELECTION –

Last day the boundaries of a precinct may be changed prior to the General Election. (During the period of sixty days prior to the election.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-261 (Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 requires that changes in a precinct or polling place be submitted for pre-clearance and shall not be effective until it has been pre-cleared. 42 U.S.C. § 1973 c.)

September 10, 2012

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES-DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PUBLISHED NOTICE OF INTENT

Last day to submit the published notice of intent for the November General Election. O.C.G.A. 21-2-133

September 18, 2012

SPECIAL ELECTION DATE –
O.C.G.A. § 21-2-540.

September 19, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent will provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-417; 21-2-418.

September 21, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION –

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

September 21, 2012

DELIVERY OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO REGISTRAR-

The superintendent must shall, at least 45 days prior to an general primary or general election other than a municipal general primary or general election, as soon as possible prior to a runoff, and at least 21 days prior to any municipal general primary or general election, prepare, obtain, and deliver an adequate supply of official absentee ballots to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. Envelopes and other supplies as required by this article may be ordered by the superintendent, the board of registrars, or the absentee ballot clerk for use in the primary or election. (21-2-384(a)(1))

September 22, 2012

PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF SAMPLE BALLOT-

At least 45 days prior to a general primary or election the superintendent shall place on public exhibition, in such public places at such times as the superintendent shall deem most suitable for the information and instruction of the electors, a sample ballot to be used in such election.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-379.8

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION BOUNDARY LINE CHANGES FOR GENERAL ELECTION –

Last day for registrars to notify affected voters in writing of changes in boundary lines of precinct prior to the General Election. (At least thirty days prior to the election.) State Election Board Rule No. 183-1-7-.01.

October 8, 2012

DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR GENERAL ELECTION/SPECIAL ELECTION-

Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the General Election and runoff. (5th Monday prior to the election). O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224.

Last day for an elector to change his/her address if he/she has moved within the county to an address different from the address shown on the voter's registration card. It is the duty of the elector to notify the board of registrars by this date in order for the elector to be placed in the correct precinct and for the elector's name to be placed on the correct list of elector's. An elector who moves to a residence within the county but into a different precinct, or who moves to a residence in the same precinct, but at a different address, and fails to notify the board of registrars of this change by the 5th Monday prior to the General/Special Election shall vote in the precinct of elector's previous residence for the General/Special Election and any ensuing Runoff and shall complete a change of address card at the polls. The board of registrars shall correct the voters list accordingly and issue the voter a new precinct card showing the address change and voters proper voting precinct and district information. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

Last day for a voter moving his/her residence to this state from another state or from one county in Georgia to another to make application for voter registration in the voter's new county of residence and have his/her previous registration canceled. Any voter moving from one county to another after this deadline may vote in the county in which the voter is registered in the General/Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-218.

October 9, 2012

POLL WATCHERS DESIGNATED: POLITICAL PARTIES

Each candidate is entitled to have his or her name placed on the election or election run-off ballots may submit the name of one poll watcher for each location at which advance voting is conducted pursuant to subsection (b) of 21-2-380 in which he or she wishes to have an observer to the chairperson or secretary of the appropriate party executive committee at least 7 days prior to the beginning of the advance voting period (O.C.G.A. 21-2-408(3)(A))

October 15, 2011

ADVANCED (ABSENTEE IN-PERSON) VOTING BEGINS

There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence on the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election and as soon as possible prior to a runoff and shall end on the

Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff. Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period) 21-2-385 (D)(1)

October 16, 2012

DATE OF RUNOFF –

Date of September Special Election Runoff

October 17, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent will provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-417; 21-2-418.

October 19, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION –

Within three days of the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419

October 23, 2012

STATE-WIDE POLL WATCHERS –

Last day political parties and political bodies who nominated a candidate for state-wide office and independent candidates for state-wide office, can designate no more than twenty-five (25) official state-wide poll watchers. The designation must be in writing and submitted to the State Election Board. Each state-wide poll watcher shall be given a letter signed by the chairperson of the State Election Board. At least three (3) days prior to the election a copy of the letter shall be delivered to the election superintendent of each county in which the poll watcher might serve. O.C.G.A. §21-2-408(b)(2).

October 27, 2012

CERTIFICATION OF WRITE-IN CANDIDATES –

Last day for the Secretary of State to certify to the superintendent of each affected county the names of all persons who have filed notices of intention to be write-in candidates with the Secretary of State. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-133(e). (At least 10 days prior to the General Election.)

October 27, 2012

SATURDAY VOTING

On the second Saturday prior to a primary or election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in primaries and elections in which there are no

federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours shall be required. (21-2-385 (d)(1))

October 30, 2012

DESIGNATION OF POLL WATCHERS –

Last day for political party, political body executive committees, or independent candidates designate poll watchers for the General/Special Election as provided in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-408. Poll watchers so designated must be notified by letter. (At least 7 days prior to the election).

At least three days prior to the General/Special Election, a copy of the designation letter issued by the political party, political body or independent candidate shall be sent to the superintendent of elections in the county in which the poll watcher is to serve. State Election Board Rule 183-1-13-.03.

The superintendent must furnish a badge to each poll watcher, which the poll watcher must wear at all times while serving as a poll watcher, containing the words “Official Poll Watcher”, the name of the poll watcher’s name, the primary or election in which the poll watcher is to serve, and each precinct or tabulating center in which the poll watcher will serve.

State Election Board Rule No. 183-1-13-.04

CONSOLIDATION NOTICE -

The superintendent shall give at least one week’s notice of the time and place for the consolidation of the returns by posting a notice at the county courthouse. A copy of the notice shall also be posted in the superintendent’s office during this period. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-492. (At least one week’s notice prior to date of election.)

November 1, 2012

PREPARATION OF ELECTORS LIST –

Last day for the registrars to complete the preparation of the electors’ list for use in the General/Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224. (At least 5 days prior to the General/Special Election.)

FORM OF BALLOTS FOR INSPECTION –

The superintendent shall have in the superintendent’s office, open to public inspection, the form of the ballots with the names and other required statements printed thereon, to be used in each precinct in the superintendent’s county at least 5 days prior to the General/Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-292. (At least 5 days prior to the general election.)

November 2, 2012

LOGIC & ACCURACY TESTING –

Last day for the superintendent to have tested, each DRE unit and memory card to be used to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and questions. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be made at least five (5) days prior. Representatives of political parties and bodies, media, and the public shall be permitted to observe the tests. O.C.G.A. §21-2-379.6(c).

November 2, 2012

DEADLINE FOR MAILING ABSENTEE BALLOTS -

Last day for registrars to receive an application and mail out an absentee ballot for the General/Special Election. No absentee ballot is to be mailed out on the day prior to the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384.

DEADLINE FOR VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT IN PERSON -

No absentee ballot shall be issued on the day prior to the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2) No absentee ballot shall be voted on the day of the General/Special Election, except in the case of a voter confined to the hospital to whom the registrars have delivered an absentee ballot and the voter has voted it then and there. An absentee ballot, which has been voted prior to the day of the election, may be mailed to the registrars on the day of the election, but will not be counted unless it reaches the registrars' office by 7:00 p.m. the day of the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384.

November 6, 2012

DATE OF GENERAL/ SPECIAL ELECTION.

§§O.C.G.A. § 21-2-2 (12); 21-2-540

HOURS POLLS ARE OPEN -

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-403.

MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF REGISTRARS TO MEET ON ELECTION DAY -

The registrars shall meet at their main office during each primary or election for the purpose of considering the qualification of voters whose names have been omitted by error from the list of voters. The registrars are authorized to place the names of such electors on the registration list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-407.

REGISTRARS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN -

The chairman of the county board of registrars and the election

superintendent shall cause their office(s) to remain open during the entire duration of each primary and election, and after the close of the polls, until completion of the duties of said board. (Does not apply to counties having a population of 550,000 or more.) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-490.

TABULATION, POSTING, ETC. –

The poll officers shall post either an accumulated results tape or one results tape from each unit on the door of the polling place according to which procedure was used. State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.02(5)(a)1.5. The Election Superintendent shall receive the memory cards from the poll managers and proceed to verify that the envelopes are sealed, remove each memory card and transfer the vote totals from the memory card to the election management systems. O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.11(g).

November 7, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The Election Superintendent will provide to the Registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06(10).

November 9, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS –

The election superintendent shall provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06 (10)

November 9, 2012

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS –

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.

November 30, 2012

DEADLINE FOR MAILING ABSENTEE BALLOTS -

Last day for registrars to receive an application and mail out an absentee ballot for the General/Special Election Runoff (if any). No absentee ballot is to be mailed out on the day prior to the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384.

DEADLINE FOR VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT IN PERSON -

No absentee ballot shall be issued on the day prior to the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2) No absentee ballot shall be voted on the day of the General/Special Election Runoff, except in the case of a voter confined to the hospital to whom the registrars have delivered an absentee ballot and the voter has voted it then and there. An absentee ballot, which has been voted prior to the day of the election, may be mailed to the registrars on the day of the election, but will not be counted unless it reaches the registrars' office by 7:00 p.m. the day of the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384.

December 1, 2012

LOGIC & ACCURACY TESTING –

Last day for the superintendent to have tested, each DRE unit and memory card to be used to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and questions. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be made at least 24 hours prior. Representatives of political parties and bodies, media, and the public shall be permitted to observe the tests. O.C.G.A. §21-2-379.6(c).

December 4, 2012

DATE OF GENERAL/ SPECIAL ELECTION RUNOFF –

Date for holding runoff (if required). (On the 28th day after the General/Special Election). O.C.G.A. § 21-2-501.

December 5, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT FORMS -

The election superintendent will provide to the registrar all provisional voter certificates, voter registration forms and the provisional numbered list no later than 9 a.m. on the day following the election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419, State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.06(10).

December 7, 2012

PROVISIONAL BALLOT VERIFICATION -

Within three days following the election, the registrar will verify to the election superintendent whether the provisional ballot can be accepted or rejected and shall check the appropriate column on the provisional numbered list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419.

December 7, 2012

COUNTING OF UOCAVA BALLOTS -

Absentee ballots cast in an election or runoff by eligible absentee electors who reside outside the county in which the election is held and are members of the armed forces of the United States, members of the merchant marine of the United States, spouses or dependents or members of the armed forces or merchant marine residing with or accompanying such members, or overseas citizens that are postmarked by the date of such election or runoff, and are received within the three day period following such election or runoff, if proper in all other respects, shall be valid ballots and shall be counted and included in the certified election results. O.C.G.A. §21-2-386.